



**TOWN OF NORWOOD
BOARD OF HEALTH**
Commonwealth of Massachusetts



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

**RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE
CONSTRUCTION OF WELLS**

SECTION 1. AUTHORITY & PURPOSE:

Under the authority of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 111, Section 31, the Board of Health sets forth the following regulation to assure that wells are developed and installed so as to not contaminate the municipal supply, to protect aquifers, and to insure that a known safe supply is used for human consumption.

SECTION 2. USE OF WELLS AS A POTABLE SUPPLY:

- 2.1 No individual well of any type intended to use as to a potable water supply shall be installed where a municipal supply of water is accessible adjoining the property and where permission to connect to such a supply can be obtained from the authority having jurisdiction over it.
- 2.2 In an area where no public water supply is available, the water shall meet or exceed the chemical and bacteriological requirements of the Massachusetts Drinking Water Regulations (310 CMR 22.00) Sections 22.05 through 22.08 inclusive. The water shall be analyzed by a state certified laboratory at the owner's expense, and a copy of the results submitted to the Board of Health at least seven days prior to the use of the supply. Thereafter, it is recommended that the well be tested annually.
- 2.3 Every well used as potable supply shall supply a sufficient quantity of water to meet the ordinary needs of the users, and shall yield at a minimum five gallons per minute after a four hour pump test.
- 2.4 Irrigation wells are for the sole purpose of irrigation and shall not be deemed or used as a potable supply for human consumption.
- 2.5 Water from a private well shall not be used as swimming pool water unless it meets the requirements of Section 2.2 above.

SECTION 3. CONSTRUCTION OF WELLS:

- 3.1 Any person installing a well by digging, driving, jetting, drilling, or any other method shall be registered with the Massachusetts Water Resources Commission, as required by Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 21, Section 16, and 313 CMR 3.00.
- 3.2 The applicant shall submit a plan to the Board of Health showing the location of the proposed well. Said plan shall show lot lines, structure locations, including septic systems and underground storage tanks. An application provided by the Board of Health shall accompany the plan.
- 3.3 Wells shall be located with the following minimum distances from sources of contamination:

(a)	property line	10 feet
(b)	roadway	25 feet
(c)	leaching facility	100 feet
(d)	septic or pump tank	50 feet
(e)	underground storage tank	100 feet
*(f)	building or public sewer	50 feet
(g)	subsurface drains	25 feet

*10 feet if constructed of durable, corrosion-resistant material and water-tight joints.

- 3.4 The Board of Health shall review the plan within 10 working days of its receipt. If the Board of Health approved the plan, it shall issue a well permit. If it disapproves, it shall notify the applicant in writing.
- 3.5 A well may not be installed until a well permit has been received from the Board of Health.
- 3.6 The Board of Health shall charge a one time fifty dollar (\$50.00) well permit fee.

SECTION 4. PLUMBING AND CROSS CONNECTIONS:

- 4.1 Plumbing connected to any private well not used as a potable water supply shall not enter any building served by the Norwood water system and shall not be interconnected with any potable water on the property.
- 4.2 Private wells, not used as a potable supply, should have provisions to be drained for freeze protection.
- 4.3 Any tap, spigot or other faucet device connected to a private well not used as a potable supply shall be protected from use for drinking or other non-irrigation purposes.

SECTION 5. ABANDONMENT OF WELLS:

- 5.1 A. well which has not been used for two consecutive calendar years, shall be considered abandoned.

SECTION 6. PENALTY:

- 6.1 The penalty for violation of any provision of these regulations shall be a fine of not more than five-hundred dollars (\$500.00). Each day's failure to comply with an order from the Board of Health shall constitute a separate violation of these regulations.

SECTION 7. VARIANCES:

- 7.1 Variances to these regulations may be granted by the Board of Health if, in their opinion, would do manifest injustice and the applicant proves that the same degree of protection as required under these regulations can be achieved.
- 7.2 All requests for variances shall be in writing.
- 7.3 A hearing for a variance shall be held within fourteen days of receipt of a request.
- 7.4 Written notice of the decision of the Board of Health shall be given within five working days of the hearing.

SECTION 8. SEVERABILITY:

- 8.1 Should any provision of these regulations be ruled invalid by a competent authority, the remaining provisions shall be considered severable and remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 9. DISCLAIMER:

- 9.1 The issuance of a well permit shall not be construed as a guarantee by the Board of Health or its agents that the water system will function satisfactorily nor that the water supply will be of sufficient quality or quantity for its intended use.

SECTION 10. OTHER PERMITS:

- 10.1 Applicants for well permits are reminded that they may be required to obtain plumbing and/or building permits. It is suggested that applicants contact the Building Inspection Department for further guidance.